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In the wake of two catastrophic Annihilation events, the Universe is in a fragile and weakened state. With the fabric of space itself damaged, anomalous fissures are beginning to appear, fissures that could crack and spread, collapsing reality and letting in things that should not exist in our dimension.

Guided by the mystical insight of the newly returned Adam Warlock, the gun-slinging Star-Lord has forged a proactive team of proven cosmic champions ready to protect the vulnerable universe and prevent any large-scale disasters from ever happening again. Together, Star-Lord, Warlock, Quasar, Gamora, Drax, Mantis and Rocket Raccoon are the...

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY

Outraged that Star-Lord had Mantis telepathically manipulate their minds to facilitate the formation of the Guardians, several members of the group quit, including Phyla-Vell and Drax. The two embarked on a quest to find Cammi, a human girl who was once Drax's companion.

They instead stumbled upon evidence that Moondragon, Phyla's lover and Drax's daughter who was killed in battle, might still be alive. Pursuing the trail to the planet Titan, they confronted Mentor, Moondragon's step-father, but were utterly unprepared for his response.

He murdered them both.

STAR-LORD (PETER QUILL

ADAM WARLOCK

GAMORA

MANTIS

ROCKET RACCOON

DRAX

QUASAR (PHYLA-VELL)

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MMNNNNHHG...
OH, HOLY PAMA, MY HEAD...
NHHH....

WELCOME TO OBLIVION

...WAITAMINUTE.

WHERE THE HELL...?

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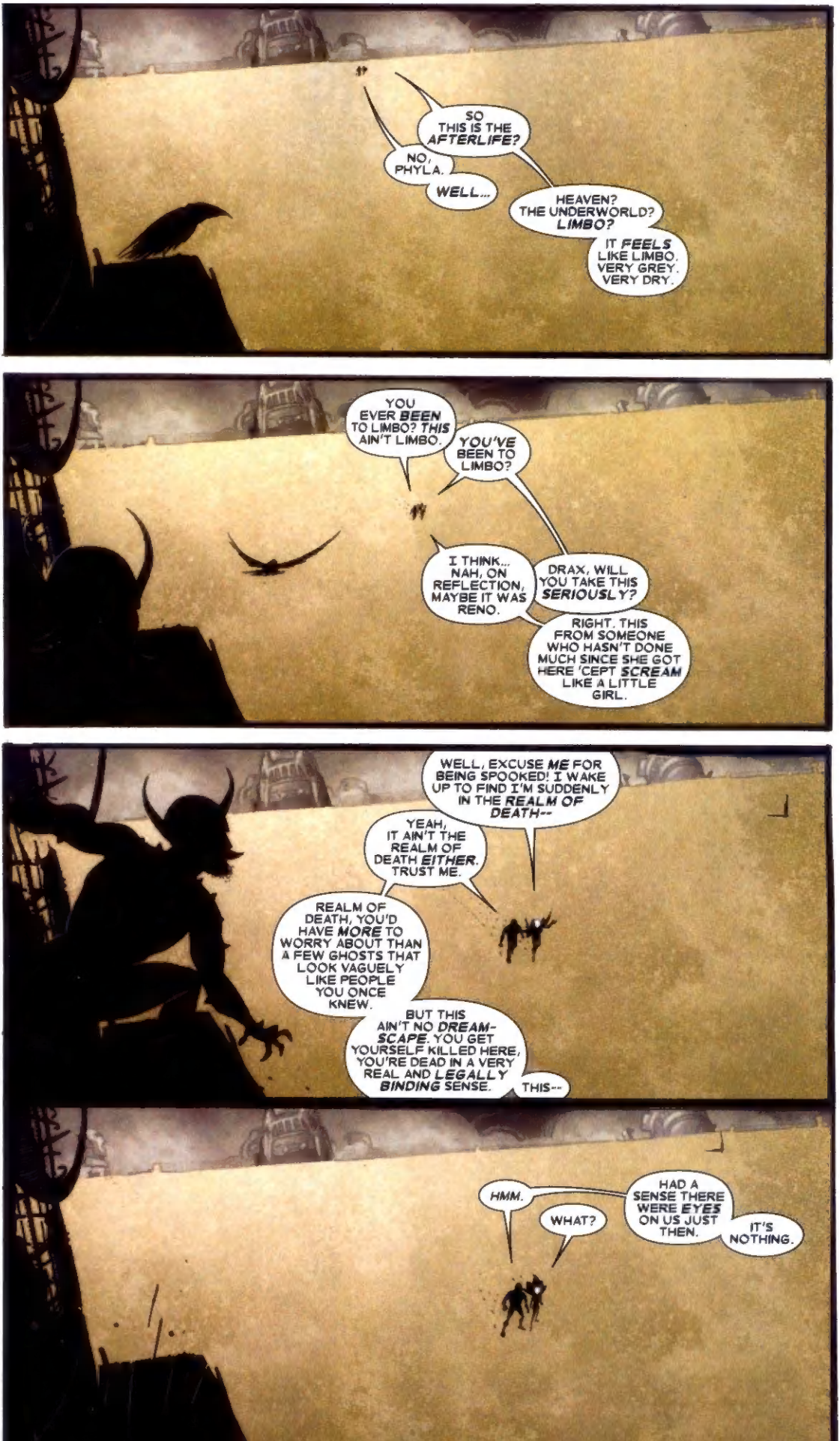
HOW--
HOW DID I GET HERE?
WHERE IS HERE?
HOW--
NO! THE QUANTUM BANDS!
NO! NO, NO!
COME BACK, PLEASE!
COME BACK! COME BACK!
NOOO!
PH-PHYLA?

HUH?!
WHO'S THERE? DRAX, IS THAT--
OH, HALA, THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
THAT'S NOT EVEN SLIGHTLY POSSIBLE...
FATHER? FATHER, IS THAT YOU?
HOW CAN IT BE YOU?
FATHER? CAPTAIN MAR-VELL?

G-KKHHHHHH!
AAAAAH!
GAAAAHHHHHGGGG!
NO!
NOOOO!
G-KHHHKKKK!
GGHH-KKKKTTT!
GHH-KKKK!
GENIS? NOT YOU TOO!
PLEASE! LEAVE ME ALONE!

AAAAAAHHH!
NO!
PHYLA!
HANG ON!
DRAX?
I THOUGHT I WAS DONE WITH BUGS.
KTOOM
GHHH-KKKK!

YOU OKAY?
DRAX?
S'ALL RIGHT. THEY'RE BACKING OFF.
I'M A DESTROYER. I WAS MADE TO DESTROY DEATH.
THEY CAN SMELL THAT ON ME. THEY DON'T LIKE IT.
WH-WHAT ARE THEY?
GHOSTS.
GHOSTS?
THEY'RE YOUR DOUBTS AND FEARS, YOUR REGRETS AND YOUR LIES.
YOU CAN'T FIGHT YOUR OWN DEMONS, PHY. YOU NEED SOMEONE'S HELP TO DO IT.
SO WHERE ARE YOUR GHOSTS? WHERE ARE YOUR DOUBTS AND REGRETS?
I DON'T HAVE ANY.
I LEARNED TO LET GO OF REMORSE YEARS AGO. S'PART OF BEING A DESTROYER.
DRAX, WHAT THE HELL HAS HAPPENED TO US?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
MENTOR KILLED US.

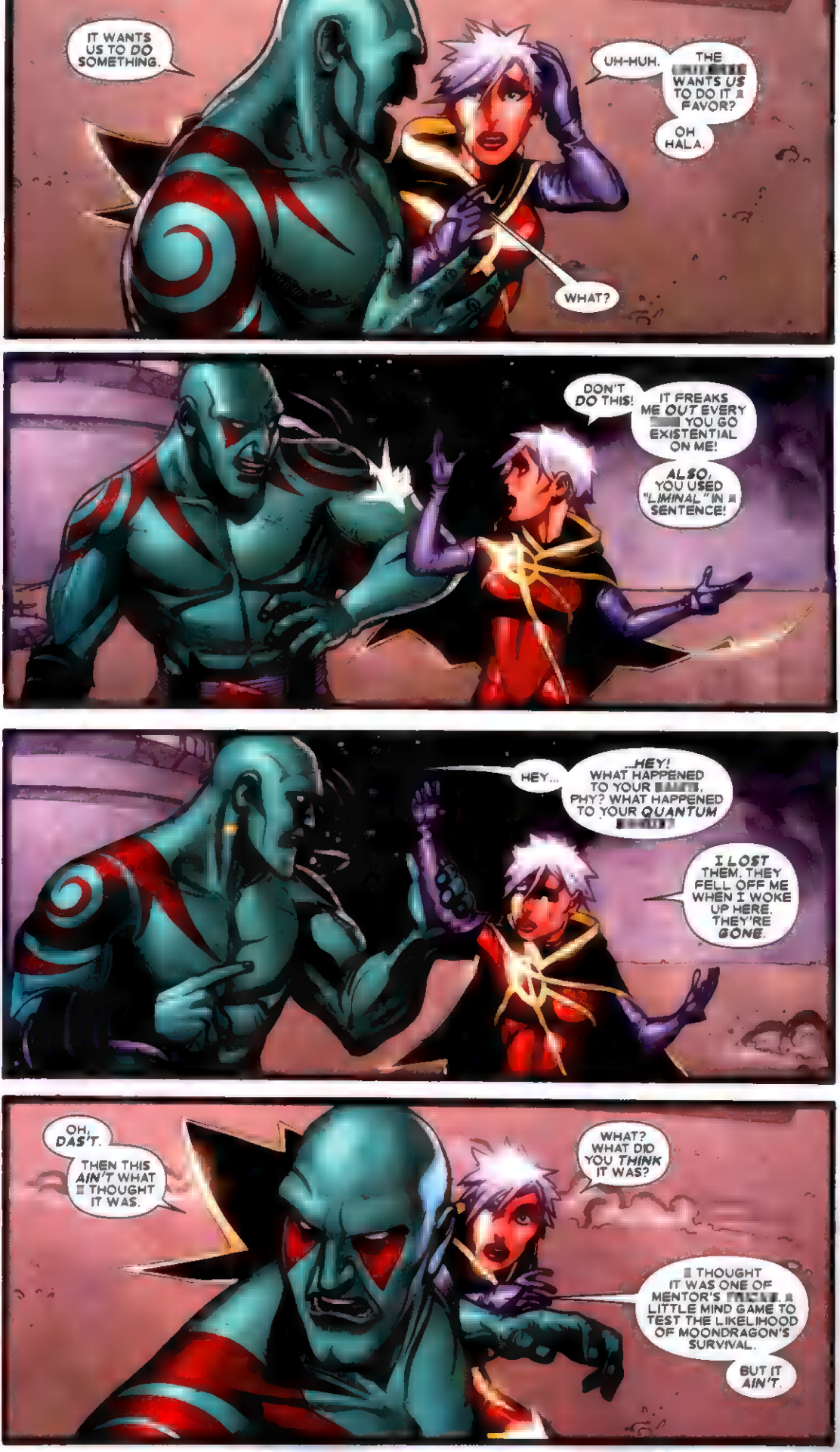

SO THIS IS THE AFTERLIFE?
NO, PHYLA.
WELL...
HEAVEN? THE UNDERWORLD? LIMBO?
IT FEELS LIKE LIMBO. VERY GREY. VERY DRY.
YOU EVER BEEN TO LIMBO? THIS AIN'T LIMBO.
YOU'VE BEEN TO LIMBO?
I THINK... NAH, ON REFLECTION, MAYBE IT WAS RENO.
DRAX, WILL YOU TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY?
RIGHT. THIS FROM SOMEONE WHO HASN'T DONE MUCH SINCE SHE GOT HERE 'CEPT SCREAM LIKE A LITTLE GIRL.
WELL, EXCUSE ME FOR BEING SPOOKED! I WAKE UP TO FIND I'M SUDDENLY IN THE REALM OF DEATH--
YEAH, IT AIN'T THE REALM OF DEATH EITHER. TRUST ME.
REALM OF DEATH, YOU'D HAVE MORE TO WORRY ABOUT THAN A FEW GHOSTS THAT LOOK VAGUELY LIKE PEOPLE YOU ONCE KNEW.
BUT THIS AIN'T NO DREAM-SCAPE. YOU GET YOURSELF KILLED HERE, YOU'RE DEAD IN A VERY REAL AND LEGALLY BINDING SENSE.
THIS--
HMM.
WHAT?
HAD A SENSE THERE WERE EYES ON US JUST THEN.
IT'S NOTHING.

LIKE I WAS SAYIN', THIS AIN'T THE REALM OF DEATH.
THOUGH IT'S CLOSE TO IT.
LIKE LIMBO?

WILL YOU FORGET ABOUT LIMBO?
THIS IS ONE OF THE HALF-WAY PLACES. THE BORDERLANDS. THERE [redacted] LOADS OF 'EM.
THEY'RE LIMINAL ZONES THAT EXIST ON THE FRINGES OF THE MAJOR REALITIES.

THEY'VE GOT NAMES LIKE DECAY AND ENNUI. OBLIVION. DESPAIR. ANGST. I DUNNO. VAGUE DISAPPOINTMENT.
DON'T ASK ME. IT'S ALL SYMBOLIC.
SYMBOLIC?
YEAH. EVEN THE BIGGIES LIKE DEATH AND--YES--LIMBO, THEY'RE JUST SYMBOLIC TOO.
THE UNIVERSE WE LIVE IN IS WILD [redacted] RAW, BUT SOMETIMES IT GIVES ITSELF A LITTLE [redacted] STRUCTURE.
SOMETIMES IT SIMPLIFIES ITSELF SO [redacted] CAN UNDERSTAND IT.

I'VE BEEN IN ROOMS [redacted] THERE'S BEEN ENTROPY SITTING ON [redacted] OF THE TABLE AND DEATH ON THE OTHER, [redacted] BETWEEN THEM, ETERNITY AND CHAOS.
THEY WEREN'T REAL PEOPLE. THEY [redacted] CONCEPTS. AVATARS. JUST LIKE THIS PLACE.
THE UNIVERSE HAS SIMPLIFIED ITSELF [redacted] THAT WE CAN GRASP ITS [redacted] FOR A MOMENT.
WHY?


IT WANTS US TO DO SOMETHING.
UH-HUH.
THE [redacted] WANTS US TO DO IT A FAVOR?
OH HALA.
WHAT?
DON'T DO THIS!
IT FREAKS ME OUT EVERY [redacted] YOU GO EXISTENTIAL ON ME!
ALSO, YOU USED "LIMINAL" IN A SENTENCE!
HEY...
...HEY! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR [redacted], PHY? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR QUANTUM [redacted]
I LOST THEM. THEY FELL OFF ME WHEN I WOKE UP HERE. THEY'RE GONE.
OH, DAS'T.
THEN THIS AIN'T WHAT I THOUGHT IT WAS.
WHAT? WHAT DID YOU THINK IT WAS?
I THOUGHT IT WAS ONE OF MENTOR'S [redacted] LITTLE MIND GAME TO TEST THE LIKELIHOOD OF MOONDRAGON'S SURVIVAL.
BUT IT AIN'T.

THE SON OF A SHLAG REALLY KILLED US.
THE BANDS ONLY COME OFF YOU IF YOU [redacted]. THEY GO TO FIND A NEW OWNER.
[redacted]! WE'RE IN TROUBLE.
MENTOR MUST BE UNBELIEVABLY DESPERATE TO GET HIS STEPDAUGHTER BACK.
HE ACTUALLY KILLED US SO WE COULD CROSS OVER INTO LIMBO, OR WHEREVER THE HELL THIS [redacted], TO FIND HER.
NO, IT'S OBLIVION.
HE'S MY BOSS.
HI.

I SEE [redacted] YOUR FACES YOU RECOGNIZE ME.
UGHHNK!
MAELSTR--
NGHHHG!
SHA-DOOM
THAT'S RIGHT, MAELSTROM.
COSMIC MANIPULATOR AND SERVANT OF OBLIVION.
I'M [redacted] VERY PLEASED TO SEE YOU.
UHNNN...
I'VE BEEN STRANDED [redacted] THIS...THIS NOTHINGNESS...FOR SO LONG WITHOUT COMPANY. WITHOUT POWER
WITHOUT A WAY OUT.
YOU STILL HAVE A [redacted] OF LIFE ABOUT YOU! YOU'LL [redacted] OUT!
GKK--KK--KK

OOOFF!
OR YOU, DRAX. YOU'LL DO JUST AS WELL.
DO YOU REMEMBER THE OLD DAYS? WE [redacted] BOTH CONCEPTUAL ENTITIES.
ME. THE INSTRUMENT OF COSMIC FINALITY.
YOU, THE AGENT OF LIFE, ENTRUSTED TO LIMIT DEATH BY DESTROYING ITS CHAMPION.
HOW DID THAT GO?
I KILLED THANOS.
BRAVO! WE CONCEPTUALS VERY SELDOM FULFILL OUR GIVEN ROLES.
TAKE ME. FOR EXAMPLE.
THE UNIVERSE [redacted] STILL ALIVE.
A STATE OF AFFAIRS I WILL RECTIFY JUST AS SOON AS I GET MYSELF OUT OF HERE.
YOU [redacted] THIS? YOU LURED US HERE TO GET YOU OUT?

I NEEDED A LIFELINE TO HAUL MYSELF BACK INTO REALITY. BUT IT HAD TO BE THROWN CLOSE, SO I COULD GRAB IT.
I HAD TO GET YOU TO CROSS THE LINE [illegible] COME HERE. YOU TOOK THE [illegible].
KREESH
KREESH
MOONDRAGON?
YES, YOUR DEAR DAUGHTER MOONDRAGON. A HINT HERE, A SOOTHSAYER THERE, JUST ENOUGH TO [illegible] YOU INTERESTED.
JUST ENOUGH TO--
GNUUUGGH!
SHTOKKK

I THOUGHT SHE WAS ALIVE!
WHKK WHKK
I THOUGHT I COULD STILL SAVE HER, YOU [redacted]!
WHKK
OKAY, WE'RE DONE HERE. LET'S FIND A WAY OUT.
IT WAS A TRICK.
YEAH, I'M SORRY. IT WAS HIS TRICK. THERE WASN'T EVER A HEATHER [redacted] COULD RESCUE.
COME ON... OF COURSE THERE WAS. I COULDN'T FOOL YOU. THE BAIT HAD TO SMELL RIGHT.
I CAN TAKE YOU TO [redacted], IF YOU LIKE.

THE UNIVERSE NEEDS ME, IT REALLY DOES.
IT'S ALL BENT OUT OF SHAPE. DEATH IS DEAD. LIFE ■ RUNNING WILD.
SHUT UP.
LOOK, WE REPRESENT CONCEPTUAL OPPOSITES. LIFE AND DEATH. ETERNITY AND OBLIVION.
WE WERE NEVER GOING TO BE FRIENDS, I ACCEPT THAT.
BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE ■ EVIL AND YOU GOOD.
YET IT CLEARLY MAKES YOU LOUD AND ■ QUIET.
LIFE AND DEATH, THEY'RE JUST TWO HALVES OF NATURE. NEITHER ONE IS RIGHT, NEITHER ONE IS WRONG.
THEY FIGHT EACH OTHER, LIKE ALL GREAT COSMIC CONCEPTS DO, AND EVERY NOW AND THEN, ONE GETS THE UPPER HAND.
DOES HE EVER SHUT UP?
LET'S JUST KILL HIM AND FIND OUT.
THE TRUTH IS, IT DOESN'T MATTER, SO LONG AS THEY STAY BALANCED.
CHECKS AND BALANCES, YOU ■ CHECKS AND BALANCES.
THAT'S THE WAY THE GREAT UNIVERSAL GAME PLAYS. AND IF THE BALANCE SWINGS... LOOK OUT!
YOU SAY YOU OFFED THANOS?
WHAT ABOUT IT?

WELL, DEATH'S CHAMPION [illegible]. THE BALANCE [illegible] SHOT. THE FORCE OF LIFE IS STRONGER NOW THAN IT'S BEEN IN EONS.
WE DON'T CARE.
BUT YOU WILL. THIS IS [illegible] POINT. IF LIFE WINS, IT'LL BE JUST [illegible] AS IF DEATH WAS VICTORIOUS.
DIFFERENT BAD, THAT'S ALL.
[illegible]WAY, YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME, SO I'LL [illegible] UP. JUST DON'T SAY I DIDN'T TRY TO [illegible] YOU.
[illegible] THE WAY, [illegible] ARRIVED.
AH.
YOU'D REALIZED THAT, HADN'T YOU?
MAY I [illegible]...

...THE DRAGON OF THE MOON.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT SHOULD BE THE NAME OF A PRETTY MOTH OR A FABULOUS ORCHID.
NOT ONE OF THE MOST SICK-HEARTED DEMONS EVER TO SLITHER IN FROM THE OUTER DARK.
STILL, I DIDN'T NAME IT.

HEATHER WAS...I MEAN, IT WAS PART OF HER...SHE WAS BECOMING IT...
I NEVER REALIZED IT WAS SO HIDEOUS.
HEATHER DOUGLAS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE DRAGON'S CONDUIT TO THE REAL WORLD.
IT HAD BEEN GROWING THROUGH HER, GETTING STRONGER. IT HAD EVEN CHANGED HER INTO DRACONIAN FORM.
IT WAS JUST WEEKS AWAY FROM FULL MANIFESTATION, WHEN ULTRON KILLED HER.
IT WAS CAST INTO OBLIVION, TO SLEEP AND REGAIN ITS STRENGTH.
IN ANOTHER MILLION YEARS, IT'LL WAKE AND FIND ANOTHER HEATHER DOUGLAS AND TRY AGAIN.
IF IT EVER GETS OUT INTO THE REAL WORLD, IT WILL WREAK COSMIC ARMAGEDDON.
WHERE'S HEATHER? WHERE IS SHE?!
I DON'T WANT THE DRAGON!
YOU TOLD US SHE WAS HERE!
I'M GUESSING SHE'S SOMEWHERE INSIDE IT.
SO GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.
BASTARD!
UGHNN!
PATHETIC.
WE FIND THAT EXIT AND--
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
THEY REMEMBER ME...
WHAT DID HE SAY?

THE QUANTUM BANDS. THEY REMEMBER ME. LOOK.
OH MY GOD! GRAB HIM BEFORE--
AAAGH!
NNNHHH!
NOW THAT'S POWER!

DRAGON OF THE MOON! ROUSE YOURSELF!
AWAKE!
I'VE GOT A PROPOSITION FOR YOU!
USE YOUR DARK ENERGIES TO RELEASE ME FROM OBLIVION!
IN RETURN, I'VE BROUGHT YOU SUPPER!
NEXT: A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH!